2006 ELECTION

STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 14



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Born and raised in Kalihi-Palama, I am a product of the public school system. Likelike Elementary, Kalakaua Intermediate and Farrington High School provided me with a solid foundation. I worked my way through the University of Hawaii and Washington State University where I graduated with Cum Laude honors.

I am often asked what motivated me toward public service. The motivation has always been "to give back" and the challenge of accomplishing what seemed like the impossible. My favorite quote, "To achieve all that is possible, you must attempt the impossible. To be all that you can be, you must dream of being more," sums it up. The dream began while I was growing up as the middle child in a family of five children. We lived in a small two-bedroom walk up apartment with no running hot water or telephone.

Growing up poor with very little I had to work hard and fight to overcome adversity in my life. My parents taught me that there are no short cuts and no substitutes for honest hard work. Thus I quickly learned the value of money and how to be frugal.

These humble beginnings were the foundation from which I acquired my basic values in life, namely the importance of family, education, perseverance and common sense.

Oversight and accountability are two areas, which I have focused on throughout my public service career in the House of Representatives, the City Council and the State Senate.